

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GEORGE 01015 181154Z
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00
/022 W

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R 181125Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4665
INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GEORGETOWN 1015

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: MILI-GY/US
SUBJECT: OVERSEAS FIELD STUDY GROUP NATIONAL WAR COLLEGE

1. NWC VISIT TO GEORGETOWN MAY 13-15 DREW HIGHLY POSITIVE RESPONSES FROM GUYANESE MILITARY AND CIVILIAN OFFICIALS. THE NWC GROUP MEMBERS IMPRESSED GUYANESE WITH THEIR KNOWLEDGE OF PROBLEMS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. GUYANESE WERE PLEASED OVER GROUP'S INTEREST IN GUYANA'S POLITICAL EXPERIMENT AND DEVELOPMENT PROBLEMS. THE GROUP MEMBERS ESTABLISHED RAPPORT IMMEDIATELY WITH BRIGADIER PRICE AND MEMBERS OF HIS STAFF. ALL DISCUSSIONS WERE CANDID AND FREE-FLOWING.

2. SUMMARY OF THE GROUP'S SCHEDULE INCLUDED THE FOLLOWING. ON FRIDAY, MAY 13, THE GROUP WAS BRIEFED AT THE EMBASSY, THEN SPENT 1 1/2 HOURS WITH ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER HUBERT JACK AND APPROXIMATELY 4 1/2 HOURS WITH CHRISTOPHER NASCIMENTO, MINISTER OF STATE OF THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, DURING A DINNER MEETING. ON MAY 14, THE GROUP WAS RECEIVED BY BRIGADIER CLARENCE PRICE, CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE GUYANA DEFENSE FORCE (GDF), WHO GAVE THEM AN HOUR-LONG OVERALL BRIEFING ON THE GDF AND ITS ROLE IN GUYANESE DEVELOPMENT. HE DISCUSSED THE BACKGROUND OF GUYANA'S BORDER PROBLEMS

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WITH VENEZUELA AND SURINAM. THE MEETING WITH PRICE WAS FOLLOWED BY A BRIEFING AND Q&A SESSION WITH MEMBERS OF GDF STAFF. THAT WAS FOLLOWED BY A SOCIAL HOUR WITH THE BRIGADIER AND KEY MEMBERS OF HIS STAFF AT THE GDF OFFICERS CLUB. LATER IN THE DAY, THE GROUP CALLED ON COLONEL CECIL MARTINDALE, COMMANDER OF THE PEOPLE'S MILITIA, FOR A BRIEFING ON THE PEOPLE'S MILITIA, AND LATER VISITED ONE

OF THE GDF'S FARMS. ON THE EVENING OF MAY 14, THE CHARGE HOSTED A STAG RECEPTION FOR THE GROUP. BRIGADIER PRICE, COL. MARTINDALE, AND THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE GUYANA NATIONAL NSERVICE (GNS) NORMAN MCLEAN AND MEMBERS OF THEIR STAFFS, PLUS A NUMBER OF OTHER GUYANESE, ATTENDED THE FUNCTION.

3. AT ALL TIMES THE NWC GROUP WAS RECEIVED WITH COURTESY, CORDIALITY AND WARMTH. AN ANNOUNCEMENT OF THEIR VISIT APPEARED IN THE MAY 14 CHRONICLE AND WAS REPEATED IN THE SUNDAY CHRONICLE. ALTHOUGH IT WAS CLEAR THAT SIGNALS HAD BEEN GIVEN FROM BURNHAM THAT THE GROUP WAS TO BE TREATED WITH COURTESY, THE PERSONAL REACTIONS OF THE GUYANESE MILITARY MEN LEFT NO DOUBT THAT THEY WERE DELIGHTED WITH THEIR NWC GUESTS AND ENJOYED THE OPPORTUNITY FOR EXCHANGES OF VIEWS.
BLACKEN

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